

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to highly compliment the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. PASTOR) and the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. KOLBE) for their dedication to this legislation and for an informed statement about the history of this area.

I know it must be beautiful to both gentlemen, and I am sure that they are very happy it is going to be protected.

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to commend our colleague, Representative PASTOR, for his work on this important legislation.

Given that we are still a comparatively young nation, the list of sites in the United States dating from the 17th century is a short one. We must be certain to provide those few we have with the protection they deserve. This legislation achieves this important goal.

Furthermore, few sites in America speak to the history of such a broad array of peoples. This area is rich in Native American, Spanish, Mexican and European culture. Such rich and diverse history must be preserved and H.R. 2234 will do just that.

Representative PASTOR has described to me the annual fiesta held at the old mission attended by hundreds of people representing each of the cultures which value this site. I am very pleased that, thanks to Representative PASTOR's diligence, this year's fiesta may take place on an expanded site that more accurately represents the way this historic area once looked.

We thank our Republican colleagues for their assistance in moving this legislation, commend Representative PASTOR for his hard work and urge our colleagues to support H.R. 2234.

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time and urge an "aye" vote on the legislation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. GILCHREST) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2234, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GILCHREST. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material in the RECORD on the two bills just considered, H.R. 700 and H.R. 2234.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES REGARDING BENEFITS OF MENTORING

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 330) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the benefits of mentoring.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 330

Whereas the future course of the United States depends on its children and youth;

Whereas educated, confident, and nurtured children will make our Nation stronger;

Whereas research has shown that mentoring measurably affects young people by increasing school attendance, improving rates of secondary school graduation and college attendance, decreasing involvement with drugs and alcohol, and decreasing violent behavior;

Whereas considerable numbers of our Nation's children face difficult circumstances: 1 out of 4 children lives with only 1 parent; 1 out of 10 children is born to teenaged parents; 1 out of 5 children lives in poverty; and 1 out of 10 children will not finish secondary school;

Whereas mentoring is a proven, effective strategy to combat such circumstances by matching a caring, responsible adult with a child to provide guidance, stability, and direction to the child and to build the child's confidence;

Whereas it is estimated that more than 16,000,000 children in the United States need or want a mentor but mentoring programs nationwide serve at most 750,000 of such children;

Whereas a coalition of mentoring organizations have designated January as National Mentoring Month;

Whereas the establishment of a National Mentoring Month would emphasize the importance of mentoring and recognize with praise and gratitude the many individuals in the United States who are involved with mentoring; and

Whereas the establishment of a National Mentoring Month would encourage more individuals to volunteer as mentors, to the benefit of our Nation's children: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the House of Representatives that mentoring relationships can benefit America's youth and result in improved school attendance and academic achievement.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE) and the gentleman from California (Mrs. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Delaware (Mr. CASTLE).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks on H. Res. 330.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Delaware?

There was no objection.

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 330, the legislation recog-

nizing the importance of mentoring. The resolution, introduced by the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. OSBORNE), reminds us all of the important role that caring adults play in the lives of our Nation's youth; and I thank the gentleman for his work in Congress as well as his work with his own mentoring organization, TeamMates of Nebraska, on this important issue.

Today's teens cope with major physical changes, emotional ups and downs, peer pressures, and a changing identity; but they are also confronted by a more complex and impersonal society where drugs and alcohol are easily available and tragedies such as AIDS and violence strike too close to home. In this time of growth and uncertainty, our children need positive role models or mentors in their lives.

Simply, a mentor is an adult who, along with parents, provide young people with support, counsel, and friendship. Most importantly, mentors are people who care. And for many people, that makes all the difference.

According to recent research, children with mentors are 46 percent less likely to begin using illegal drugs, 52 percent less likely to skip school, and 33 percent less likely to get into fights. In addition, children of mentors reported greater confidence in their performance at school and better relationships with their families.

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Despite these positive outcomes, too many children who need a mentor do not have one. In my State of Delaware alone, an estimated 10,000 young people could benefit from a positive, supportive relationship with an adult; but only 7,000 are currently served.

Nationally, more than 16 million children need a mentor, but current programs reach only 750,000. It is, therefore, appropriate that this January, the inaugural National Mentoring Month, we encourage caring adults to reach out to the children and youth in their communities. In Delaware, everyone from the Governor and the Delaware Mentoring Council to local businesses will be working hard to recruit 1,000 new mentors. It is my hope that other States will rise to the challenge to connect each of our Nation's children with caring adults.

As part of that effort, I want to recognize the many businesses, churches, and community groups that partner with our schools to provide mentors to children in need as well as the informal mentoring relationships that exist between teachers, coaches, and neighbors. I also want to recognize those who lend their expertise or contribute financially to mentoring organizations. Their support is as important as volunteering to become a mentor.

The events of September 11, as tragic as they were, taught us about charity, heroism, and our own capacity to care about others. As we pause to recall the teacher, neighbor, or coach who made a positive impression on our lives, I hope